

STEWART ELEMENTARY

PUYALLUP SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

JANUARY 2012

From the Principal's Desk...



Dear Stewart Stars Parents:

Welcome to 2012! We look forward to serving you and your students. This month, we will be celebrating the life of Dr. King, and we invite you to join us in attending our assembly which will take place on **Tuesday, January 17th, at 10:30 a.m.** in our gymnasium. The title of the assembly is, **“Eleven Days in the Life of Dr. King”** and is brought to us through the Broadway Center for Performing Arts. Currently, we utilize the REACH curriculum to support cultural competency throughout the school year, and our Art Docent Program has a multi-cultural focus as well. Please consider joining us for this great cultural opportunity and performance.



As we move into this new year, we would like you to place the following dates on your calendar to plan for our upcoming state assessments: It is very important that students are present every day at school, but especially during the testing window. Thank you for your attention to this.

May 1st – May 11th, 2012

MSP State Testing Window

We have received inquiries from both students and parents regarding the use of “E-Books” or “Kindles” at Stewart Elementary. Please know that as we can’t provide security for such valuables at school, we discourage the use of them in the classroom.

You may have noticed sixth grade student leaders wearing bright yellow t-shirts in our building out and about being involved in positive acts. We are so excited to introduce our new “Stewart Star Leader Program” under the leadership of Mrs. Buck, one of our sixth grade teachers. Sixth graders are being trained as “Conflict Managers,” how to serve as “Office Helpers,” “Teachers’ Assistants” to help our younger students as well as, a “Welcoming Crew” to give students, new to Stewart, tours and special introductions. We are continuing to develop other positive ways for children to become involved at Stewart, and are so proud of our students! Thank you for a great start to the new year!



Respectfully,

Anne Hoban

Principal



PLUS *Points*

PLUS POINTS

Topic: Reading Aloud

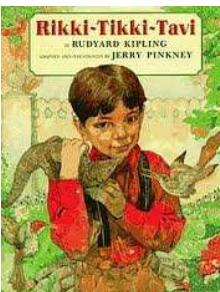
A question that may be on your mind when reading these articles could be - "How is my child's reading going to get better if I'm doing the reading?" The answer is "listening comprehension feeds reading comprehension. " Whenever an adult reads to a child, three important things are happening simultaneously and painlessly: (1) a pleasure connection is being made between child and book, (2) both parent and child are learning something from the book they're sharing (double learning) and (3) the adult is pouring sounds and syllables called words into the child's ear." Speaking vocabulary, reading vocabulary, and writing vocabulary all have their origin in the listening vocabulary. A child who is read to with books containing more advanced vocabulary than what the child can read themselves the greater their listening vocabulary will be. The goal is to not teach your child to read at an early age, the goal as parents/guardians, is to prepare them for the school to give the reading instruction. We learn meaning of words by hearing them over and over, from older siblings and adults using complex words and when the words are in spoken meaningful context.

"An unread story is not a story; it is little black marks on wood pulp."

-Ursula LeGuin

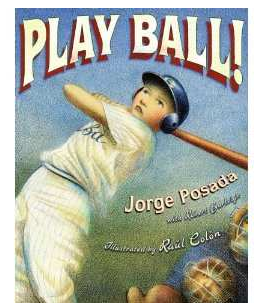
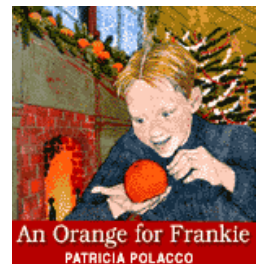
Suggested readings: (for elementary age groups)

*Early Years: An Orange for Frankie by Patricia Polacco; The Paperboy by Dave Pilkey; Please, Baby, Please by Spike & Tonya Lewis Lee



*Middle Years: Rikki-Tikki-Tavi by Rudyard Kipling; Rocks in His Head by Hurst & Stevenson; The Great Skating Race by Louise Borden

*Older Years: Play Ball by Jorge Posada; The Friendship by Mildred Taylor; Frindle by Andre Clements



Happy reading aloud!

Sheryl Piskel, PLUS Program Coordinator

*Reference: The Read Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease



Recess Reminders

from the playground..

**As the weather gets colder,
please be sure that your student
is dressed appropriately for
recess.**

**Stayed tuned for new and
improved positive recess
games, activities and
expectations. We are working
with your children to make
Stewart the best it can be!**

Mrs. Strobel & Mrs. Timme



Staff, parents students and community members can make student referrals to QUEST. The "Highly Capable Learners Application & Permission for Testing form is available in the school office or online at the QUEST SWIFT Teacher Web site. Students interested

in placement in this program are administered ability and achievements tests at Maplewood Elementary. Completed applications must be on file in the QUEST office before testing takes place. To be considered for the 2012-13 school year, applications for testing are due by the following dates each year

January 15 , May 15, August 15 and September 15

If you do not get your child's application in by this initial January 15th due date, please do so as soon as possible!

Notification of your testing date will arrive via U.S. Mail shortly after each of these deadlines.

For more information including calendar, curriculum, testing and resources go to the QUEST Web Site

Nancy R. Velazquez, QUEST Program Coordinator

428 11th Street SW

Puyallup, WA 98371-5706

Phone: (253)841-8751

Harassment Policy:

The Puyallup School District has an anti-discrimination policy (Policy 3211) and a policy covering harassment, intimidation and bullying (Policy 3207). The policies were revised and adopted by our Board of Directors in August of 2003 as a means of providing the safest and most optimum learning environment for all students. Copies of these policies are available on the District website at www.puyallup.k12.wa.us or by calling the Office of Diversity Affairs at 253-840-8966.

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement: The Puyallup School District is in the process of reviewing its activities, services and programs to identify and eliminate any barriers to full participation by all otherwise qualified persons regardless of any disability. If you are aware, or become aware, of any such barriers to access or to communication associated with any of the school district's programs, services or activities, please notify the Americans with Disabilities Act/Section 504 compliance person for the Puyallup School District: Lorraine Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, 302 Second Street SE, Puyallup, WA 98372 (253)841-8764

Non-Discrimination Statement: The Puyallup School District provides equal opportunities in education and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status or disability in accordance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, The Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and any applicable Washington State laws against discrimination. For specific information, please contact: Lorraine Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, 302 Second Street SE, Puyallup, WA 98372. (253)841-8764

Telecommunications Relay Service: For persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, all staff members may be contacted through the Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service at the following telephone numbers: Tele-Braille: (800)833-6385 Voice: (800)833-6348 TTY: (800)833-6388

ADA Accommodations: The Puyallup School District provides reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. We invite any person with special needs to contact the ADA/504 coordinator at least seventy two (72) hours before scheduled meetings, training or events to discuss any special accommodations that may be necessary. Please contact: Amie Brandmire, Director of Employee Relations, 302 Second Street SE, Puyallup, WA 98372. (253)841-8645